

REMARKS

Formal drawings are submitted herewith. Approval by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamagishi (US Patent No. 5,379,433). Claims 2-6 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagishi and further in view of Spitzenberger et al (US Patent 5,930,209).

By this amendment, claims 1, 3, 7, and 8 have been cancelled and new claims 9-15 have been added.

Claim 1 was rejected as anticipated by Yamagishi (US379433). Claim 1 is cancelled and that rejection is moot. Claims 7 and 8 were also rejected under 35 USC § 112. Those claims are cancelled and that rejection is moot. The remaining claims were rejected under 35 USC § 103 based on a combination of Yamagishi and Spitzenberger (US5930209). That rejection is improper and should be withdrawn for the reasons indicated below. For those and further reasons, new claims 9-15 are also patentable over the art of record.

The rejection under 35 USC § 103(a) is unsupported by the references. Claim 2 identifies two blocks of identifier data: disc identifier data (DID); and a software identifier data (SID). The rejection identifies only one identifier block. In paragraph 10 of the office action, the rejection interprets the Yamagishi ID code in ROM 2 as corresponding to both the DID of the invention and the SID of the invention. That is erroneous. It is improper to apply one element in a reference to two different and distinct elements in a claim.

In addition, the Yamagishi ID code cannot meet the limitation of the claimed SID. Claim 2 calls for the SID code to be stored in the recordable area (RAM) of the disc. However, Yamagishi places its ID code in the ROM area.

In summary, claim 2 provides two identifier blocks, a DID and an SID. The DID is permanently stored in a ROM portion and the SID (which can be erased) is stored in a RAM portion. The rejection fails to show two such identifier blocks of data in the references.

Claims 3-6 are patentable for similar reasons. The rejection makes the same error of using one element in Yamagishi to correspond to the different elements defined in the claims.

New claims 9-15 are likewise patentable since they include the same two block feature discussed above. Claim 9 includes a further feature that provides for multiple discs with the same DID and each disc with the same DID having a different SID. This feature is described in the specification (see page 7, lines 20-24).

Claim 10 corresponds to original claim 3. It recites the PMA, PCA and lead-in areas as alternate areas where the DID can be stored. Dependent claim 15 adds the further limitation that multiples discs have the same DID but each disc with the same DID has different SID.

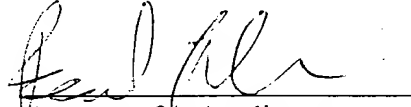
In summary, the remaining original claims, as filed and without amendment, and the new claims are patentable over the art of record. The other rejections are overcome by canceling the rejected or objected to claims.

It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

Respectfully submitted,



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Encls: Letter to the Draftsperson
Copies of formal drawings
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement w/ PTO-1449

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

Claim 1 has been cancelled.

Claim 3 has been cancelled.

Claim 7 has been cancelled.

Claim 8 has been cancelled.

Claim 9 is new.

Claim 10 is new.

Claim 11 is new.

Claim 12 is new.

Claim 13 is new.

Claim 14 is new.

Claim 15 is new.